formulating a long term action plan for establishing an environment friendly plant of 1000 MW or more. The study report is being finalised.

Cost of power generation

†2595. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of average cost of power generation in the country vis-a-vis US, Japan, England, Germany, France, Australia, Canada, China etc.;

(b) if so, the average cost of power generation in each of the said countries vis-a-vis India; and

(c) what are the reasons for the difference in the cost of power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) As per available information, the average cost of generation of various States for thermal power projects and hydcl projects for the year 2000-2001 is given in the Statement-I (See below). The details of generation cost of electricity in various countries including India arc given in Statement-II (See below).

(c) The cost of generation from various power projects in various countries is dependent on a variety of factors like type of project *viz.* Hydro, thermal or nuclear; fuel used *viz.* Coal, liquid fuel, natural gas etc. and distance of the project from the fuel source; technology used, mode of financing, difference in the tax regime etc.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Statement I

Cost of power generation of various SEBs for the Year 2000-2001 (Paise/KWH)

SI. No.	Name of the State	Hydro	Thermal	Average
1.	Haryana	23.14	267.66	41.04
2.	Karnataka	43.46	343.83*	260.09
3.	Orissa	—	118.89	—
4.	Himachal Pradesh	112.75	—	112.75
5.	Meghalaya	86.01	—	86.01
6.	Andhra Pradesh	36.31	179.31	141.73
7.	West Bengal	357.99	157.59	187.63
8.	Tamil Nadu	23.89	187.18	149.44
9.	Maharashtra	44.95	133.09	124.70
10.	Punjab	46.86	208.79	154.97
11.	Gujarat	129.71	172.53	171.65

*DG Sets

Statement II

Retail prices of electricity (Rs./KKWH) Dec. 2000)

SI. No.	Country	Industry	Household
1.	USA (America)	1.96	3.92
2.	Japan	7.84	11.27
3.	U.K.	2.45	4.90
4.	Germany	2.45	5.88
5.	France	N.A.	4.90
6.	Australia	N.A.	N.A.

SI. No.	Country	Industry	Household
7.	Canada	1.47	2.45
8.	China	N.A.	N..A.
9.	India	3.43	1.47

(Exchange rate US$ = Rs.49) NOTE: Source of Information: IEA (International Energy Agency)

Encouraging power sector reforms

†2596. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the allocation for power sector in order to encourage reforms in the power sector;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that many power projects and payment of arrears are pending in many of the States of the country due to financial crunch; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) For this year, the budget has a provision of Rs.3500 crores for the Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) to finance investments in distribution for reducing T&D losses and improving the quality of supply as well as to take care of the needs of transition financing. This financing is linked to satisfactory achievement of mutually agreed reform milestones.

Due to poor financial conditions of the SEBs many power projects and payment of arrears are pending in many States. The poor

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.